CGBD

CGBD 2016 ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

Basin Harbor Club
Vergennes, Vermont

AGENDA

Ecology and Economy: Rethinking our Future

"To believe in unlimited growth in a finite world one has to be either a fool or an economist."
Kenneth Boulding, Economist

Perhaps this best sets up the question: "How can we as conservation and climate funders ensure that we are using all forces to effect change?" While we've scored some tremendous victories— fabulous wilderness areas protected, exponential growth in renewable power, an international climate agreement set to retool our economy on a massive scale, and cleaner air and water in many parts of North America—the global measures of sustainability still give us pause, if not sleepless nights. Marine ecosystems and global fisheries continue their steep decline, life threatening greenhouse gas emissions continue to spew, and the gap between rich and poor has become a chasm. And unfortunately, these are just a handful of examples of our compromised sustainability frame.

As members of CGBD we know we care about science, policy, regulations, and litigation. We've done well in these spheres where we feel at home. But we have yet to grapple with the most powerful force behind our complex world—our economy—that drives most of the biodiversity challenges we face. We are caught in the vortex of an economic system that is extracting wealth from our future and threatening to collapse the ecological systems upon which our survival depends. Unfortunately for most of us, thinking about the economy doesn't come naturally.

Meanwhile, for many economic players the environment is an afterthought, as is equity. Our economy, designed for short-term profits, as though the environment is unrelated to a robust economy, while in reality our economy depends on a healthy environment. How can we bridge the gap?

We need to turn the concept of sustainability on its head; we *have* a sustainable environment, what we *need* is a sustainable economy! Despite what the economic texts would have you believe, our ecosystems are not in service to perpetual growth, and humans are not economic inputs. The economy must serve our environment or fail, and it must be designed to enrich all humanity. Exploring the power structure that created and holds this specious dynamic so firmly in place can provide an additional lens through which to understand these multi-layered challenges, as well as new tools to help solve them.

We are going to talk about the economy, warts and all, in Vermont this June, and we promise it will be interesting and insightful. Innovative technologies are changing the way we work, move, communicate and power our cities; young entrepreneurs and online platforms are changing our access to the economy and our relationship to the environment; and our hundreds of millions in grant dollars and investments are leveraging hundreds of billions in private capital to help us create the future that we want. The world is shifting, so let's think big in Vermont and have some fun creating a collective vision for the economy we need to reach that future.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

7:00-9:00pm **Early Arrivals Registration—All You Do Is Pick Up Your Name Badge!**
Table in Lodge Lobby

7:00-9:30pm **CGBD Board of Directors Meeting and Dinner**
Garden Room, off of Main Dining Room

7:00-9:00pm **Early Arrivals Dinner—On your own**
The Red Mill Restaurant, on property, is open.
http://www.basinharbor.com/dining/the-red-mill-restaurant/

MONDAY, JUNE 13

7:00-8:45am **Breakfast**
Main Dining Room

8:00am-5:00pm **Registration— All You Do Is Pick Up Your Name Badge!**
Table in Lodge Lobby

8:30am-12:00pm **CGBD Board of Directors Meeting** (cont.)
Board Room, adjacent to Town Hall room

9:00am-12:00pm **ACADEMIES—CGBD MEMBERS-ONLY**
Concurrent sessions

Morning #1: Place-Based Funder Collaboratives—Recipe for Results
Eagle Room, lower level, Town Hall

Collaboration comes more easily if you are all in the same geography. Or does it? What's the best way to add partners? What are the tried-and-true methods and tools to encourage shared learning and outcomes? Are the tools adaptable? Are they adaptable to other non-place-based collaboratives? Is success largely data-driven or to what extent do personalities matter? Engage in a lively interchange from players from very different places but with similar aims.

Presenters:

- Amanda Hooker, Program Manager, Funders of the Amazon Basin, CGBD
- Marina Cazorla, Program Manager, Gulf of California/Mexico Funders, CGBD
- Fabiola Greenawalt, Program Officer, The Russell Family Foundation, Puyallup Watershed Initiative,

Morning #2: Impact Investing Academy 101

Vermont Room, lower level, Town Hall

- What is this impact investing thing, anyway? Are there applications to conservation and biodiversity?
- It's not in my job description. Is it relevant to me? Should it be?
- Will I learn about some tangible examples?

Yes, yes, and yes! This is the place to start at the beginning and share your questions and experience. Embracing the endowment side of the ledger is a journey and the continuum of experience and wisdom spans many departments, years and interests. Come if you know nothing, a little, or a lot. We are here to learn from each other as well as from a few plucked and known "experts" among the membership. There are lots of side roads to this discussion so come one, come all. We will use the time and space to explore definitions, comfort level, results, and resistance. We will not be sitting for three hours - guaranteed!

Session to include:

- Who we are and level of knowledge (interactive).
- Why we should be interested in impact investing, or, what's to gain?
- How do we go about putting into action: a) dealing with resistance (again, interactive) and b) technical steps.
- Stories of what has worked and what hasn't. Example of pooled funds by geography and by issue.
- Divest/Invest. What's to know?
- Where and what are the resources?

Presenters:

- Jon Jensen, Executive Director, Park Foundation
- Jennifer Sokolove, Program Director, Compton Foundation

Moderator:

- Jenny Russell, Executive Director, Merck Family Fund

12:00-1:00pm **Lunch**

Ranger Room

1:00-4:00pm **ACADEMIES—CGBD MEMBERS-ONLY**
Concurrent sessions

Afternoon #1: Beyond Impact Investing—Academy 201
Vermont Room, lower level, Town Hall

This session will build on the Impact Investing 101 session in the morning. While the morning addressed endowments, this afternoon will focus on involving your programs with the corporate world.

Beyond Impact Investing is about driving environmental and social benefits through multi-national corporations whether it be marine fisheries, wilderness protection, or climate. In 2015, the twenty-five largest U.S. companies had revenues of $1.8 Trillion and almost 3.5 million employees. Investors had $74 Trillion of assets under management. What would be the impact if these resources were used to drive a sustainable economy? What if the economic self-interest of these organizations was aligned to support environmental policies and pricing? How can foundations and grantees access and expand approaches to leverage business for faster and longer lasting results.

We will hear from business and financial leaders on how the corporate world thinks about environmental issues, are they friend or foe, and the challenges they face with taking action.

This will be an interactive session. Participants will work in teams with the panelists to come up with a pitch to as to why a particular environmental issue or project can be made stronger leading with an economic or business framing. Participants will leave with new perspectives, techniques and methods for making their granting areas relevant to the business, investor and policy communities.

Presenters:
- Julie Gorte, Pax World Management LLC
- Mark Buckley, VP Environmental Affairs, Staples

Moderator:
- Andrea Moffat, Vice President, Ivey Foundation

Afternoon #2: Political Myth-Busters What We Need to Know Going into 2017
Eagle Room, lower level, Town Hall

Assumptions about the political context surrounding environmental issues like public lands, climate, energy or international trade have shaped our campaigns to advance each issue with the current Administration and recent Congresses. Our panel of political mythbusters will do some fearless truth telling about why campaigns were approached a certain way, what worked well and what didn't,

what political dynamics continue to the influence the realm of possibility, and what we should try and change for greater success moving forward. Come hear what assumptions have been "busted" in recent years, which remain "plausible," and if any have been "confirmed" that can help guide our engagement of the next Administration and Congress so environmental issues are well positioned for action.

Presenters:

- Tiernan Sittenfeld, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, League of Conservation Voters
- Michael Boots, Senior Fellow, Aspen Institute, and former Acting Chairman, White House Council on Environmental Quality

Moderator:

- Lisa Jaguzny, Chief Executive Officer, Campion Foundation

Afternoon #3: Keeping Environmentalists Safe and Civil Society Open

Palisades Room, upper level, Town Hall

Be part of what it will take to *protect* front-line environmental activists and indigenous leaders; *prevent* the erosion of civil space; *reveal* the connections between governments, some rogue companies, and security forces that create the condition for the violation of Human Rights; and finally *redress* the wrongs rendered to victims of repression or violence.

Learn what's underway and how you can bolster a growing network.

Presenters:

- John H. Knox, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment *(via video conference)*
- Kristin Grimm, President, Spitfire Strategies *(via video conference)*

4:00-5:30pm **Afternoon Tea with Bill McKibben, 350.org**

Club Room, in the Lodge

5:00-6:00pm **Reception**

6:00-6:15pm **WELCOME TO VERMONT!!**

Main Dining Room

Gaye Symington, President of the High Meadows Fund.
Prior to joining High Meadows, Gaye served in the Vermont Legislature for 12 years, four of them as Speaker of the Vermont House. Under her leadership Vermont established the clean energy development fund, greenhouse gas reduction goals and other policies to promote clean and efficient energy use, groundwater protection, and affordable housing in village centers.

6:15-6:45pm **KEYNOTE, ROBIN CHASE, INTRODUCED BY LESLIE HARROUN**
Main Dining Room

Robin Chase, author, *Peers Inc*, co-founder, Zipcar
The Power of the Collaborative Economy
We are no longer the passive consumers of the 1950s, we have become participants and co-creators in a different economy, one in which people and platforms can turn excess capacity into abundance. These new ways of interacting are fundamental to a future that addresses our most challenging environmental problems and income inequality, and they can help us create the world we want to live in. Robin will discuss her introduction to and life work in the shared economy in which everyone wins.

6:45-9:00pm **Opening Dinner**
Main Dining Room

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

7:00-8:30am **Breakfast**
Main Dining Room

8:45-9:00 am **KICK-OFF from our Co-Chairs**
Town Hall

- Jenny Russell, Executive Director, Merck Family Fund
- Bruce Lourie, President, Ivey Foundation

9:00-10:15am **HOW WE LIVE NOW**
Town Hall

The economy looms as a powerful force driving many of the environmental conservation challenges we face. But at its root, the economy is also just a series of choices about how we will use the resources that are available to us. Today, the individuals and institutions that drive those choices are changing – in ways that create both threats and opportunities for our work. This session will give us an opportunity to explore some of the ways that our economy and its connection to the environment are evolving with the changing choices of government/multi-lateral institutions, "big business," and entrepreneurial solution seekers.

Presenters:

- Kevin Gallagher, Co-Director, Global Economic Governance Initiative and Professor, Global Development Policy, Boston University
- Robin Chase, author, *Peers Inc.,* co-founder, Zipcar
- Rajiv Joshi, Managing Director, The B Team

Moderator:

- Jenny Russell, Executive Director, Merck Family Fund

10:30-12:00pm **SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY RELATED TO PLENARY**
Locations TBA-watch for signs in Town Hall

12:00-1:00pm **Lunch**
Ranger Room

1:00-2:00pm **MEMOIRS OF THE YEAR 2050**
Town Hall

We, as environmentalists and conservation funders, have done a great job of explaining the problems we face today and the dismal prospects for the future if we maintain the status quo. We have not, however, done a good job of painting a compelling vision for a future to which we aspire. Despite having sat through dozens of sessions where experts have told us that: we need to be positive; we need to focus on peoples' aspirations (jobs and economic prosperity); we need to talk about things that matter—we have a very hard time doing this—and it is undermining our effectiveness.

Can we, as funders, help create a positive vision for the future? How do we make it inclusive and mainstream? How do we go beyond the constraints of our programs, our grantees and our own comfort zones to make this happen? Where are the societal inflection points to shift from doom and gloom to sunny days? Hear from inspiring thinkers on how and why these are essential questions for us to grapple with and where we can start to shift our strategies and find new ways of working together and with those who can help us.

Presenters:

- Red Constantino, Executive Director, Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities
- Julie Friedman Steele, Board Chair and CEO, World Future Society
- César Blanco, Interim Director, Latino Victory Project

Moderator:

- Flora Lichtman*, The Adaptors,* NPR

2:15-3:15pm **A WALK IN THE WOODS**
OR, SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY RELATED TO PLENARY
Locations TBA-watch for signs in Town Hall

3:15-3:45pm **Break**
Refreshments on Sun Porch, adjacent to Town Hall

3:45-5:00pm **DIVERGENT: REPRIORITIZING FOUNDATION PRIORITIES**
Town Hall

Five years ago, the Ivey Foundation was Canada's largest forest conservation funder. Today, the foundation no longer supports grantees working on forest conservation, and Ivey President Bruce Lourie argues that Ivey is doing more to conserve the future of biodiversity than ever. How? By shifting the narrative to one that frames our economic and environmental challenges as integrated – not jobs *versus* the environment but jobs *and* the environment.

Philanthropy is powerful, but not powerful enough to convince individuals to act against their own economic self-interest when it comes to saving the environment or stopping climate change. Philanthropy's power comes from its ability to catalyze social change; for example, building the constituencies needed to support policies that drive large-scale investments into clean energy, forest conservation, and protection of clean water. Today we'll hear from three of our colleagues, foundation leaders who have taken different approaches to adapting their foundations' priorities to embrace the economic case for environmental action.

These leaders will discuss some of the difficult questions they've had to consider, and—often-painful—decisions they have had to make. What happens when new priorities leave out longtime grantees? How do we create new organizations needed to deliver these messages? What kind of challenges do we face working with mainstream, business-friendly grantees? Why do we think this is the successful path forward? What if staffing shifts cause a rift within the board? How do you become an expert in a new field overnight? We'll also hear about the excitement of charting a new course, and how to measure impact in a field as broad as the "new economy."

Presenters:

- Kate Wolford, President, McKnight Foundation
- Aileen Lee, Chief Program Officer, Environmental Conservation, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

Presenter/Facilitator:

- Bruce Lourie, President, Ivey Foundation

5:00-5:15pm **Break**
Refreshments on Sun Porch, adjacent to Town Hall

5:15-6:15pm **CGBD PROGRAM MEETINGS—UPDATES AND INPUT ON PRIORITIES**
Locations TBA-watch for signs in Town Hall

- Land & Freshwater & Conservation Science—*Get the results from a new members' survey*

- Gulf of California/Mexico & Funders of the Amazon Basin—*Find out what's new in capacity-building work*
- Marines & International Connections—*Coordinating for September's World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i*
- Climate & Energy Funders Group—*Learn why this is a particularly good time to fund in Canada*

6:15-7:00pm **Break**

7:00-9:00pm **DINNER**
Lodge Lawn

8:30 -9:30 pm **Horizon Committee Book Club**
Champlain Lounge

Around the fire, gather to discuss Paolo Bacigaulpi's *The Water Knife* and philanthropy's role in addressing ecological disparities

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

7:00-8:45am **Breakfast**
Main Dining Room

9:00-10:30am **THE WILD SHORE**
Economic Tools & Approaches, Part 1
Town Hall

This session will offer funders a chance to roll up their sleeves and explore opportunities to apply economic tools/approaches to their environmental conservation work. CGBD members and invited guests will share brief case studies of innovative work that they are supporting/doing across different areas of interest to our membership in the realms of marine-based, land-based, and fresh-water based biodiversity. We will then move into theme-focused discussions, where members will have the opportunity to go deeper around tools/approaches that interest them, and consider the potential for application to their own work.

Presenters:
- Kelly Wachowicz
- Tania Briceno, Ecological Economist, and Dave Batker, Executive Director and Co-founder, Earth Economics
- Joel Clement, U.S. Department of Interior

Moderator:
- Aileen Lee, Chief Program Officer, Environmental Conservation, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

10:45-12:15pm **CITIES IN THE SUN**

Paris to Vergennes: How to Put a Price On Carbon?

Economic Tools & Approaches, Part 2

Town Hall

What are concrete examples of economic tools being applied on the ground to combat climate change? This session focuses on carbon pricing at the state, regional, and international level. We'll hear about an active campaign here in Vermont to tax carbon pollution, discuss the economic benefits of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, and learn about the role of international carbon trading in implementing the Paris Climate Agreement.

Presenters:

- Paul Burns, Vermont PIRG
- Katie Sullivan, International Emissions Trading Association
- Sara Law, Vice President, Global Initiatives, CDP

Moderator:

- Christy Loper, Program Officer, Educational Foundation of America

12:15-12:45pm **Break—**

Pick up lunch, rendezvous for field trips in the parking lot behind the Lodge.
Lunches will be set in the Porte Cochere.
Vehicles depart at 12:45 pm SHARP.

12:45-5:30pm **FIELD TRIPS**

Sustainable Agriculture

- Pine Island Community Farm, Colchester, Vermont. Pine Island Farm is a partnership between VLT (The Vermont Land Trust) and AALV (The Association of Africans Living in Vermont). The farm supports New American farmers to raise food that is culturally important to them including goats, spent layer hens, vegetables, and bees. The farm also aims to responsibly steward the land in the ecologically fragile Winooski River floodplain by restoring the native perennial vegetation to provide healthy grazing for the goats and reduce pollution from the run-off chemical fertilizers during ever-more-frequent flooding events. The farm operates a custom slaughter facility where buyers of goats and chickens can process their own meat for personal consumption. As such it allows resettled refugees to produce familiar foods, maintain cultural traditions, and connect to the land in their adopted country.

Clean Energy Local-style

- Our tour begins at Middlebury College where we'll meet up with Jack Byrne, the college's director of Sustainability Integration. Jack will lead the group on a tour of some of the innovative projects the school has completed as it strives toward

its goal of achieving carbon neutrality by the end of 2016 which revolves around biomass fuel, forest carbon sequestration, efficiency and solar energy. Jack will tell us more about the college's impressive sustainability program as we enjoy Middlebury's beautiful, parklike campus. Once class is out, we'll head to nearby Vermont Hard Cider, the state-of-the-art cidery that makes Woodchuck Cider. The Vermont Hard Cider facility opened in 2014 and features cutting-edge energy efficiency measures that run from the processing equipment to the visitor's center. Vermont's commitment to energy efficiency is on display at this facility, where the nation's first statewide energy efficiency utility – Efficiency Vermont – collaborated with Vermont Hard Cider to lower the upfront cost of efficiency investments, and provided technical expertise to help project designers get the most out of their energy investment. And of course, we'll be sure to taste the fruit of this efficient labor as we select from many varieties on tap in the tasting room.

Biodiversity of the Lake Champlain Region—by kayak!
This trip is full. Space may become available on site at Basin Harbor. Check with Bill Hull when there to confirm.

- June is a great month for birding, since most of the neo-tropical migrants have returned and are full into breeding season. Peregrine falcons are nesting in the cliffs. It is also a time to see amphibians moving around in vernal pools Enjoy kayaking (flat water) on a series of interconnected wetlands and bayous that are all part of Lake Champlain watershed.

Hike the Camel's Hump

- Join your colleagues for a vigorous 4.5-mile hike up Camel's Hump, one of Vermont's highest peaks. We'll be taking the shortest and easiest possible route up Camel's Hump, but please note that this will be a vigorous 4.8 mile hike (roundtrip) with an elevation gain of 2,300 feet. The hike should take about 3 hours and you'll be climbing the mountain featured on Vermont's state quarter. After conquering the switchbacks of the Burrows Trail, we'll be rewarded by a 360-degree view stretching to Canada, New Hampshire, and New York. We'll be traveling at a pace that is comfortable for everyone. Please note that we will have a hard turn-around of 3:30 pm — hopefully we will have made the summit by then, but there is a chance we won't be able to make it all the way to the top. Either way, we'll walk through some of Vermont's renowned ecosystems, and we'll definitely have an adventure!

5:30-6:30pm **Break**

6:30-7:30 pm **WUNDERLE'S BIG TOP ADVENTURES**
Outside of Town Hall building

Vermont has a proud circus tradition and three of its soloists will lead you to the business meeting and mingle outside on the green.

6:30-7:30pm **CGBD MEMBERS' ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**
Town Hall

Meet the Board, the leadership team, and the staff, and hear reports on events since last June. Voice your preferences for the year ahead. This is the birthplace of new ideas including "Keeping Environmentalists Safe," and expanded work on economic issues.

7:30-9:30pm **DINNER WITH MUSIC -"DWIGHT AND NICOLE"**
North Dock/Lakeside Lawn

Nicole Nelson and Dwight Richter make up this critically acclaimed, American indie-soul/blues duo. Recipients of the 2016 "Band of the Year" Award from the New England Music Awards.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

7:00-8:45am **Breakfast**
Main Dining Room

9:00-11:00am **NEWS FROM A NEW ATLANTIS: HOW TO CREATE AND CHART A TOPOGRAPHY OF SUSTAINABILITY AND PROSPERITY**
Town Hall

Vanguard thinkers will reflect about where we are as a community, a society and a species and how we got here. More importantly, they will talk to each other, and us, about their assumptions and hopes for the future, and how we might go about creating a future that we want to live in. Truly addressing the problems of the twenty-first century will require going beyond business as usual—it will require "changing the system." But what does this mean? And what would it entail? Stick around to learn about some dynamic proposals for political-economic alternatives to protect our planet and build prosperity.

Presenter

- Gus Speth, Co-chair, Next System Project and Senior Fellow, Vermont Law School
- Carina Millstone, Research Fellow, The Schumacher Institute

Moderator:

- Leslie Harroun, Partners for a New Economy

11:00-11:30am **Box Lunch To Go & Goodbye**
Pick up lunch on the Sun Porch, adjacent to Town Hall

2016 Annual Meeting Planning Committee:

Jenny Russell, co-chair
Merck Family Fund

Deborah Burke
Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Leslie Harroun
Partners for a New Economy

Aileen Lee
Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation

Christy Loper
Educational Foundation of America

Bruce Lourie, co-chair
Ivey Foundation

Anji Moraes
Paul G. Allen Foundation

Traci Romine
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

Thank you to Andrea Moffat, Ivey Foundation, who contributed mightily to programming for the meeting. Special thank you to Gaye Symington, High Meadows Fund, and Karen Harris, John Merck Fund, for assisting with all things VERMONT!

Important note: CGBD's Annual Meeting is open to CGBD members and invited guests only. We are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and engaging gathering. All attendees are encouraged to debate and provide collaborative opportunities. This meeting, and all CGBD meetings and calls, unless otherwise noted, are off the record regarding media. Please refrain from fundraising and respect the media policy. This policy is intended to protect meeting participants and to encourage open dialogue during the meeting.